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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

If it weren't for the local, competitive option in my neighborhood, I wouldn't have nearly the same kind of broadband access that I would with the local giant, AT&T.

I've had to deal with both large telecom companies and with this local company and the difference could NOT be starker.

Instead of spending my ENTIRE DAY on the telephone trying to work out a small problem or a billing issue, I always speak with a customer service representative in my home state who not only listens to me, but who works tirelessly to actually solve my problem.

Since signing up with this local company when I moved to Los Angeles last year, I've had NO surprising rate hikes, NO changes in service quality, and NO customer service issues.

That is a far cry from what I dealt with when I lived in Portland, Ore., and had to deal with the major telecom companies there.

Frankly, the monopolistic policies and business practices of America's major telecom companies are a slap in the face to the spirit of fairness implicit in the American competitive market system and a disservice to the millions of Americans seeking better telecom services at better prices.

My local broadband company allows me the freedom and flexibility that the major providers do not and it would be a SHAME if that were taking away from me and the MILLIONS of other Americans who rely on local providers across the country.

Tim Froh